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PATENT

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Paul Giotta et al.

Serial No.: 09/899,662

Art Unit: 2151

Filed: July 5, 2001

Title: METHOD FOR ENSURING OPERATION DURING NODE FAILURES  
AND NETWORK PARTITIONS IN A CLUSTERED MESSAGE PASSING  
SERVER

Docket No.: FRR-12587

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

**JAN 08 2002**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**Group 2100**

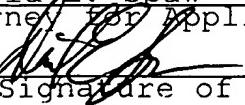
Sir:

In accordance with Rule 56, applicant is aware of the publications listed in the enclosed copy of Patent Office Form PTO/SB/08A. A copy of each of the publications is enclosed herewith.

The first four documents listed are from the Reliable Distributed Computing group at Cornell University. The documents describe current general (not specifically related to messaging) research in clustering, and specific information about the architecture and limitations of Microsoft's clustering product.

The fifth document is a white paper about scalability from Sonic Software and describes an approach very different to what is described in the present application. Although many JMS vendors have offered some form of clustering, they provide little technical information about it. What they do provide is still quite marketing oriented as it makes many

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David E. Spaw  
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claims but provides little detail on how these are accomplished or what their limitations are. This white paper should at least show that their basic approach is quite different than the present application.

The last document is the master's thesis of Jesper Honig Spring, one of the inventor's in the present application. It describes a clustering technique for a JavaSpaces server. JavaSpaces has some basic similarities to JMS style messaging. The approaches differ, though, as the technique described in the thesis is clearly oriented toward robust operation over wide area networks, while the present invention aims for maximum performance assuming all nodes are connected by a local area network.

Respectfully submitted,

RANKIN, HILL, PORTER & CLARK LLP

By   
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<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>				
(use as many sheets as necessary)				
Sheet	1	of	2	Attorney Docket Number
<i>Complete if Known</i>				
Application Number		09/899,662		
Filing Date		July 5, 2001		
First Named Inventor		Paul Giotta		
Group Art Unit		2151		
Examiner Name				

## **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

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## **FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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JAN 02 2002				Application Number	09/899,662
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE				Filing Date	July 5, 2000
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				First Named Inventor	RECEIVED Paul Giotta
(use as many sheets as necessary)				Group Art Unit	2151
				Examiner Name	JAN 08 2002
				Attorney Docket Number	Group 2100 FRR-1258
Sheet	2	of	2		

#### **OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

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